

Contact Group on Goals (Tuesday afternoon)

GEO BON welcomes the overall structure of the document into outcome oriented goals for 2030 and 2050 and action oriented targets for 2030. The idea of further organizing the goals into a headline goal on the state of biodiversity and a headline goal on the benefits from nature, each with several sub-goals, as suggested by Colombia, seems sound.

Due to the urgency of the biodiversity crisis **it is important to maintain milestones for 2030 for all goals**, as the UK has suggested. It is also important to recognize in the framework that the assessment of those 2030 milestones may involve **projections of expected biodiversity recovery** by 2050 to address **time lags between ecological restoration actions and the biodiversity response**.

Regarding **Goal (a)** to achieve no net loss of the area and integrity of ecosystems, we recommend explicitly recognizing **ecosystem functioning** as a means to increase ecosystem resilience. We suggest rewording of Goal (a) to incorporate "ensuring ecosystem resilience *and functioning*".

Regarding **Goal (b)**, GEO BON welcomes the inclusion of a component on the abundance of species. However, we would like to point out that past trends in abundance of species are still under research. It seems clear that many species are declining in abundance, but others are increasing. Therefore, we would suggest a rewording of the goal to read "**The abundance of species *delivering important ecosystem functions*** has increased ...".

GEO BON welcomes the inclusion of genetic diversity within species in **Goal (c)**. However, we the current suggested elements of the goal for monitoring, as listed in Appendix 1 are focusing on crops, breeds and wild relatives. We recommend that the elements of Goal (c) should explicitly recognize the societal, economic and ecological importance of the **genetic diversity of all species**. We suggest the following rewording of Goal (c) to "Genetic diversity is maintained or enhanced on average by 2030, and for [90%] of species *contributing to forestry, agriculture or fisheries, and [X%] of all wild species* by 2050".

Finally, we believe that an additional sub-goal under **Goal (d)** should recognize the **cultural benefits from nature**. It could be worded around "**Increase in the number of people by at least [x million] enjoying the aesthetic, inspirational and cultural aspects of biodiversity**".